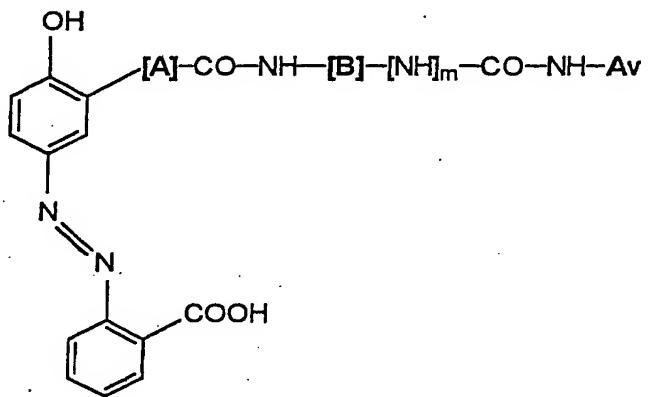


ABSTRACT

5 A covalent conjugate of a 4'-hydroxyazobenzene-2-carboxylic acid derivative
5 (HABA) and an avidin-type molecule, of the formula:



10 wherein A is $(CH_2)_n$ or $-CH=CH-$, wherein n is an integer from 0-10; B is $(CH_2)_n$
wherein n is an integer from 2 to 10; m is zero or 1; and Av is the residue of an avidin-type
10 molecule selected from the group comprising native egg-white avidin, recombinant avidin,
deglycosylated avidins, bacterial streptavidin, recombinant streptavidin, truncated
streptavidin and other derivatives of said avidin-type molecules. These HABAylated avidins
are red colored in the quinone configuration and can be used in many applications in the
avidin-biotin technology.